

POWELL VALLEY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Quarterly Meeting – Gresham Greater Baptist Church

June 3, 2010

MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Joe Lagerstrom, PVNA President, at 7:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. With one amendment, a motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. A quorum was established and a majority of those present approved the minutes.

The amendment to the minutes concerned the name of Steve Solez as having spoke about the Neighborhood Watch Program.

President's Report

Joe Lagerstrom explained how neighborhood associations function. The City of Gresham will contact neighborhood association leaders, who in turn will contact association members; PVNA can also contact and make recommendations to the City. Communication by PVNA to its members is done primarily by email and distributing flyers by walking the neighborhood. PVNA includes approximately 1500 residences. No money is available for mail-outs more than twice per year.

Update on volunteer participation with Safe Routes Walk – a comment was made by Barbara Swanson regarding her volunteer participation in the safe route walk. A lack of involvement could have disqualified the City of Gresham from receiving related grants.

Old Business

Status of 1st Street between Kane and Burnside– The City “might” plan funding for a pathway/sidewalk for 2011, but attendees expressed their desire that 1st Street is be made a priority. When the City took this area over from the County, 1st Street “fell through the cracks”. Vehicle traffic has increased with no provision for walkers, bikers and people in wheelchairs. A suggestion was made that foot/bicycle traffic be counted and reported to the City.

Further, the following recommendation to the City was approved: *“That we, as an Association, recommend that the City of Gresham make improving SE 1st Street, between Kane and Burnside, the highest transportation priority for improving our neighborhood’s public safety.”* The vote to submit this resolution was unanimous.

South side grass mowing – this required maintenance has not occurred. A member agreed to contact the City and request maintenance. (Note: mowing was completed in mid-June.)

New Business

By-law change: explanation and vote – the City already recognized PVNA as boundaried by Burnside on the west; however, the by-laws state that Kane Rd. is the boundary to the west. A motion for a by-law wording change was proposed, seconded and approved, as follows: *“The boundary shall be as follows: That portion of the City of Gresham, Oregon bounded on the north by Division, on the east by the City limits, on the south by Powell Valley AKA East Powell Blvd., on the southwest by Burnside and on the west by Hogan.”*

Neighborhood Block Party - The PVNA has set August 7th as the date for a neighborhood block party at the home of Kim Piel. Volunteers are needed to help with this event. Kim stated that the event should be kept as simple as possible with attendees bringing salads and cookies.

In response to these plans, Kelle Landavazo from the City of Gresham stated that events planned between the Saturday before the National Night Out (August 3rd) and the Saturday after are all considered part of the National Night Out event. Therefore the City will send out a representative to each registered event. Kim Piel is to register the August 7th event with the City of Gresham.

Community Presentations

Kelle Landavazo, Neighborhood Watch – when a neighborhood watch is established the City will supply a sign for that area. Each Watch is to have a Captain. Kelle also discussed the Disaster Preparedness program and how it can also be a part of a block's Neighborhood Watch program. Kelle will provide PVNA with a list of locations where PVNA's Neighborhood Watch programs are located.

Other available volunteer programs are the volunteer police academy and volunteer Fire Corp. program. All of these programs are a part of "block building" within the City, and the Community Services office at City Hall has a computer and copier available for all registered volunteers.

Bob Faye, Property Crimes Sergeant, Gresham Police Department – There are only four property crimes detectives within the City of Gresham. Resources are very limited. There are seven officers patrolling in the evening at any one time. In PVNA's area, there were nine burglaries in March and he suggested residents utilize the GIS maps on the City's website on an on-going basis to see where incidents have occurred. Bob circulated some maps showing the location of kick-ins/burglaries and other thefts in the PVNA area. He also stated that Gresham is not a "crime-ridden" city, even though the police to resident ratio is 1.2 to 1,000.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.